



04-14-04

Docket No. 7096/SYNX/JB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Inventor(s): Martin R. Elliott, Robert B. Lowrance, Michael R. Rice, Jeffrey C. Hudgens and Eric A. Enghardt
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPLYING SUBSTRATES TO A PROCESSING TOOL
Serial No.: 10/650,479
Filed: August 28, 2003

Transmitted herewith is:

☒ PTO Form 1449 and Information Disclosure Statement with five cited references.☒ Return Postcards

FEE CALCULATION					
Fee Items	Claims Filed	Included With Basic Fee	Extra Claims	Fee Rate	Total
Total Claims	N/A	- 20 =	-0-	X \$18.00	\$0.00
Independent Claims	N/A	- 3 =	-0-	X \$84.00	\$0.00
Basic Filing Fee				\$740.00	\$0.00
TOTAL FEES					\$0.00

___ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$0.00 to Deposit Account No. 04-1696.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1696. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.

☒ Please address all future correspondence to:

**PATENT COUNSEL
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
Legal Affairs Department
P.O. BOX 450A
Santa Clara, CA. 95052**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Express Mail Receipt No. EL975550880US

Date of Deposit: 4/13/04

Signature: [Signature]

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Brian M. Dugan
Registration No. 41,720
(914) 332-9081



Express Mail Label No. EL975550880US

PATENTS
7096/SYNX/JB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Martin R. Elliott, Robert B. Lowrance,
Michael R. Rice, Jeffrey C. Hudgens and Eric
A. Englhardt

Serial No. : 10/650,479

Filed : August 28, 2003

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPLYING
SUBSTRATES TO A PROCESSING TOOL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the
following references:

U.S. Patent No. 5,048,164, Harima

U.S. Patent No. 5,603,777, Ohashi

U.S. Patent No. 6,439,822 B1, Kimura et al.

Foreign Art Reference No. JP 10-256346 (JP)

United States Patent Application Publication No. US

2002/0090282 A1, Pub. Date 7/11/2002.



These references are also listed on the accompanying
Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449).

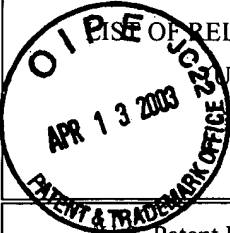
Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this
patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian M. Dugan, Esq.
Registration No. 41,720
Dugan & Dugan, PC
Attorneys for Applicants
(914) 332-9081

Dated:

4/13/04
Tarrytown, New York

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>				Docket No.: 7096/SYNX/JB		Serial No.: 10/650,479	
(Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicants: Martin R. Elliott, et al			
				Filing Date: August 28, 2003		Group:	

U.S. Patent Documents							
*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	US-1	5,048,164	09/17/91	Harima			
	US-2	5,603,777	02/18/97	Ohashi			
	US-3	6,439,822 B1	08/27/02	Kimura et al.			
	US-4						
	US-5						
	US-6						
	US-7						
	US-8						
	US-9						
	US-10						
	US-11						

Foreign Patent Documents							Translation	
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	F-1	JP 10-256346	09/25/98	JP		Abstract only		
	F-2							
	F-3							
	F-4							
	F-5							

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
OT-1	United States Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0090282 A1, Pub. Date 7/11/2002
OT-2	
OT-3	

Examiner	Date Considered
----------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.